

**CLAIM SET AS AMENDED**

1. (Currently Amended) A locking means ~~for an~~ on an over-centre fastener for preventing unintentional opening of the fastener, ~~including comprising:~~

manually releasable snap-action retaining means ~~(30, 34; 36)~~ between a movable lever ~~(21)~~ and a stationary part ~~(20, 27)~~ of the fastener,

said retaining means comprising:

~~a spring (30; 36) attached to the lever (21a; 21b) and~~

abutment means ~~(31; 38)~~ associated with the stationary part ~~(20, 27)~~, ~~characterized in that the~~ and an elongate leaf spring (30) has one end attached to the at a first end thereof to a lever (21a) and an opposite,

a second end of said leaf spring being movable end thereof relative to said lever and forming engagement means (34a; 36a) adapted to engage the abutment means (31; 38) in a closed position of the fastener,

said ~~opposite~~ second end of the leaf spring being formed with guide means ~~(34a, 34e; 36d, 36e)~~ guiding movement of said opposite end of the spring relative to the lever ~~(21a)~~.

2. The locking means according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ spring is a wherein said guide means comprises at least one portion of said leaf spring (30) bent to encompass a portion of said lever.

3-5. (Cancelled)

6. (New) The locking means according to claim 1, wherein the elongate leaf spring has a main plane extending in a normal, unstrained state along the inner side of a leg of the lever.

7. (New) The locking means according to claim 6, wherein the elongate leaf spring is formed with a hole at one end of the main plane, and another hole formed at a predetermined distance therefrom.